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TRANSCRIPT OF BROADCAST
By
Fulton Lewis, Jr.

Station WGMS at 7-7:15 P. M.
31 December 1957

Now it has come to my attention that the paid fund raiser for the Crusade For Freedom, Mr. Jack Patterson, is unhappy about the broadcasts that I have been doing for you and the columns that I have been writing about his organization and Radio Free Europe and affiliated operations which are supported by the crusade. He is particularly annoyed, it seems, about the information I gave you concerning the junket to Munich and Paris back in October, when the crusade chartered a special transatlantic airliner from Pan American Airways and flew some 56 people to Europe for a ten-day free trip.

I want to be perfectly fair to Mr. Patterson and to the crusade and fortunately I have a lengthy rebuttal which he prepared in mimeograph form to distributeto those of the sponsors and directors who might be disenchanted by the facts as I have reported them to you and I want to give you what he has to say in this rebuttal.

In the first place, he takes issue with my statement that the junket stopped for four days of sightseeing in Paris. Mr. Patterson says, "The trip does not spend four days in Paris. The group arrives Friday afternoon, spends most of Saturday at a top-level briefing at SHAPE headquarters, and takes off for New York on Sunday. All expenses are not paid. Group members pay for expenses and all meals other than official dinners and lunches."

Now the first statement is technically true. The actual log of the trip shows that the party arrived in Paris Friday afternoon, as he says. Specifically, it arrived at 12:30 PM Friday afternoon. It is correct also that there was a briefing of sorts at the SHAPE headquarters in Paris the next morning but it did not take most of the day, as you will see as we go along. The party did leave for New York on Sunday, but it was Sunday night at 8:00 PM. As for the paying of meals and other expenses by the members of the group, I can throw some light on that for you too, which I will do.

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I have here with me a copy of the current issue of the National News, the official publication of the Women's auxiliary of the American Legion, in which the lead article is by the president of that organization, a very charming lady by the name of Mrs. J. (Pat) Mildred (Kelley) of Atlanta, Georgia, who was one of those who went along on this junket to Munich personally. This article is her own account of the trip, with her own reactions, and I shall quote from it in context to let you know her impressions. I may add that I did not collaborate with Mrs. (Kelley) in the writing of this article. It is quite her own and I am presenting it as testimony of a distinguished witness who certainly had no reason to be prejudiced at the time she did the writing.

In the first place Mrs. (Kelley) explained that the party was delayed in getting off from New York because of plane trouble and instead of leaving Idlewild Airport, New York, after luncheon on Friday October 11, as scheduled, did not leave until 1:00 PM the next day, Saturday. She says, "This attempt was successful so we were finally aloft and on our merry way. I use the word merry advisedly for it was a jolly, congenial, and friendly group aboard, including the crew, a grand bunch of sports. The party consisted of some fifty men and four ladies. Though very much in the minority, we made our presence known and were treated royally at all times."

She recounts that they stopped at Gander, Newfoundland, for refueling, were fogged out of a regular scheduled landing in London, but the captain offered to route the trip across the Alps to compensate, but the Alps were fogged out too. They got to Munich about mid-morning on Sunday, she says, went to the hotel to freshen up. Then the following, "but who could freshen up when you met your bags coming in as you left your room to meet the deadline for the bus. Who cared? After all we had experienced in getting there, we didn't intend to miss one thing, so we went as we were. This time we were taken to the dock and boarded a boat which immediately got under way across a beautiful lake dotted here and there with picturesque sailboats. We soon docked at the largest of several islands on the lake, we walked up to a very old building which is now a very lovely restaurant inside. Here we enjoyed a delightful luncheon, typical German style, as we looked across the lake at the boats and the colorful fall foliage."

"After luncheon, we were taken in small groups in horse-drawn carriages up the island to the palace of Ludwig II, known as the Mad King of Bavaria. This palace, which is breath-taking in beauty and grandeur, is kept up today as it was in

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Ludwig's day." Then a three-paragraph description of the splendor of the castle. Back at the hotel now, "A quick change and we were off to a reception given by the American Consul General and his charming wife. From here we proceeded to the Hotel Regina, where we were to experience delicious food and delightful entertainment, the program being furnished by entertainers from Radio Free Europe. It was a most enjoyable evening. Next morning, our long-awaited inspection of Radio Free Europe."

For three paragraphs more she describes where they were taken, how the people of Radio Free Europe had impressed her, although there is nothing to suggest that she heard any of the broadcasts or could have known what they were saying if she did because they were in foreign languages, of course. Naturally, she took it for granted that the glories of Radio Free Europe were as represented by the people who did the briefing.

"Another interesting evening," Mrs. (Kelley) says, "was spent with the German-American Women's Club. It was in the form of a covered-dish dinner, the German ladies furnished typical German foods, and the American women, wives of Radio Free Europe employees and service personnel, furnished the American dishes, which together contributed to a bounteous and appetizing, beautifully appointed table of food to which we helped ourselves." She next described a train trip to the Communist border on which the party was entertained by the charming wives of several Radio Free Europe employees, and gives her impression of the border.

Finally, after dinner at (Wieden), "We again boarded the train for Munich." The group then goes the next day to Berlin, and I might mention that as an inspection tour of the Radio Free Europe operations, this is interesting because there is no Radio Free Europe installation in Berlin. Mrs. (Kelley) says,"Our first experience here was a pleasant reception at the city hall given by the mayor." It seems to have been Wednesday, because the party spent the next day sightseeing in West Berlin and then going to East Berlin to see the sights there in United States Army buses. On Friday morning, first thing, they got off via their special plane for Paris.

Now since Paris seems to be such a problem for Mr. Patterson, I would like to read you what this good lady has to say about the sweatshop circumstances of the visit to Paris which was only three days instead of four. Please note also

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that there is no Radio Free Europe installation in Paris either.

"All of my life, I've heard that one has not lived until she has visited Paris. Now I have lived. Paris was beautiful, with its buildings of ancient design. Our one official engagement in Paris was at SHAPE. Here we were briefed by various officers on the conditions existing today in Europe and on the deployment of our security forces and bases of operation. Of course, one does not go to Paris without visiting the French noted spots as Notre Dame, the Louvre, the Eiffel Tower, and the Arch de Triumph. It was my privilege to see each very briefly. We also enjoyed a bit of night life by attending the Lido and the Follies."

Mrs. Kelley then concludes with the party's takeoff for New York at 8:00 PM on Sunday evening. My purpose in this travel log, of course, is to let you decide for yourself whether Mr. Jack Patterson's portrayal of this trip, as primarily an inspection of Radio Free Europe in Munich, with the guest paying everything except the bare round-trip plane fare, is correct or not. And if it is not, why is Mr. Patterson and his Crusade For Freedom putting out this sort of material. Let me quote the gentleman once more: "The cost of the trip is figured into the annual budget of the Crusade For Freedom, paid by private sources."

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